



## **2013 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule – Overview of Imaging Payment Policy and Estimates of Sustainable Growth Rate Payment Reductions**

### Current Multiple Procedure Payment Reduction (MPPR) Policy

Under the current imaging MPPR policy, full payment is made for the technical component (TC) of the highest paid procedure, and payment for the TC is reduced by 50 percent for each additional procedure subject to the MPPR reduction. Currently, the MPPR applies to CT, CTA, MR, MRA and ultrasound services. The reduction applies to multiple imaging services furnished within the same family of codes or across families, to the same beneficiary in the same session, regardless of imaging modality, and is not limited to contiguous body parts.

In addition, under the current MPPR policy, payment reductions apply for the professional component (PC) of the advanced imaging procedures noted above. Full payment is received for the PC of the highest paid service, and payment is reduced by 25 percent for the PC for each additional advanced imaging service furnished to the same beneficiary in the same session.

### New for 2013

For services furnished on or after January 1, 2013, CMS will now apply the MPPR policy to the TC to an expanded list of cardiology codes. The new codes are listed below. Note: Cardiac CT and MR were already included under the policy and thus, those codes do not appear on this list.

### **Code Short Descriptor – Diagnostic Cardiovascular Services Subject to the MPPR policy**

75600 Contrast x-ray exam of aorta  
75605 Contrast x-ray exam of aorta  
75625 Contrast x-ray exam of aorta  
75630 X-ray aorta leg arteries  
75658 Artery x-rays arm  
75705 Artery x-rays spine  
75710 Artery x-rays arm/leg  
75716 Artery x-rays arms/legs  
75726 Artery x-rays abdomen  
75731 Artery x-rays adrenal gland  
75733 Artery x-rays adrenals  
75736 Artery x-rays pelvis  
75741 Artery x-rays lung  
75743 Artery x-rays lungs  
75746 Artery x-rays lung  
75756 Artery x-rays chest

75791 Av dialysis shunt imaging  
75809 Nonvascular shunt x-ray  
75820 Vein x-ray arm/leg  
75822 Vein x-ray arms/legs  
75825 Vein x-ray trunk  
75827 Vein x-ray chest  
75831 Vein x-ray kidney  
75833 Vein x-ray kidneys  
75840 Vein x-ray adrenal gland  
75842 Vein x-ray adrenal glands  
75860 Vein x-ray neck  
75870 Vein x-ray skull  
75872 Vein x-ray skull  
75880 Vein x-ray eye socket  
75885 Vein x-ray liver  
75887 Vein x-ray liver  
75889 Vein x-ray liver  
75891 Vein x-ray liver  
75893 Venous sampling by catheter  
78428 Cardiac shunt imaging  
78445 Vascular flow imaging  
78451 Ht muscle image spect sing  
78452 Ht muscle image spect mult  
78453 Ht muscle image planar sing  
78454 Ht musc image planar mult  
78456 Acute venous thrombus image  
78457 Venous thrombosis imaging  
78458 Ven thrombosis images bilat  
78466 Heart infarct image  
78468 Heart infarct image (ef)  
78469 Heart infarct image (3D)  
78472 Gated heart planar single  
78473 Gated heart multiple  
78481 Heart first pass single  
78483 Heart first pass multiple  
78494 Heart image spect  
93000 Electrocardiogram complete  
93005 Electrocardiogram tracing  
93015 Cardiovascular stress test  
93017 Cardiovascular stress test  
93024 Cardiac drug stress test  
93025 Microvolt t-wave assess  
93040 Rhythm ECG with report  
93041 Rhythm ecg tracing  
93224 Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs  
93225 Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs  
93226 Ecg monit/reprt up to 48 hrs  
93229 Remote 30 day ecg tech supp  
93268 ECG record/review

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93270 Remote 30 day ecg rev/report  
93271 Ecg/monitoring and analysis  
93278 ECG/signal-averaged  
93279 Pm device progr eval sngl  
93280 Pm device progr eval dual  
93281 Pm device progr eval multi  
93282 lcd device prog eval 1 sngl  
93283 lcd device progr eval dual  
93284 lcd device progr eval mult  
93285 llr device eval progr  
93286 Pre-op pm device eval  
93287 Pre-op icd device eval  
93288 Pm device eval in person  
93289 lcd device interrogate  
93290 lcm device eval  
93291 llr device interrogate  
93292 Wcd device interrogate  
93303 Echo transthoracic  
93304 Echo transthoracic  
93306 Tte w/doppler complete  
93307 Tte w/o doppler complete  
93308 Tte f-up or lmtd  
93312 Echo transesophageal  
93314 Echo transesophageal  
93318 Echo transesophageal intraop  
93350 Stress tte only  
93351 Stress tte complete  
93701 Bioimpedance cv analysis  
93724 Analyze pacemaker system  
93784 Ambulatory BP monitoring  
93786 Ambulatory BP recording  
93788 Ambulatory BP analysis  
93880 Extracranial study  
93882 Extracranial study  
93886 Intracranial study  
93888 Intracranial study  
93890 Tcd vasoreactivity study  
93892 Tcd emboli detect w/o inj  
93893 Tcd emboli detect w/inj  
93922 Upr/l xtremity art 2 levels  
93923 Upr/lxtr art stdy 3+ lvls  
93924 Lwr xtr vasc stdy bilat  
93925 Lower extremity study  
93926 Lower extremity study  
93930 Upper extremity study  
93931 Upper extremity study  
93965 Extremity study  
93970 Extremity study  
93971 Extremity study

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93975 Vascular study  
93976 Vascular study  
93978 Vascular study  
93979 Vascular study  
93980 Penile vascular study  
93981 Penile vascular study  
93990 Doppler flow testing

CMS notes that it does not expect the expanded MPPR policy to result in services being furnished on separate days by one physician merely so that the physician may garner increased payment. CMS states that it will monitor access to care and patterns of delivery for cardiovascular (and ophthalmology) services that are subject to the MPPR policy, with particular attention focused on identifying any clinically inappropriate changes in timing of the delivery of such services.

#### MPPR Applies to Group Practices

This rule finalizes provisions to apply the MPPR to group practices. For services furnished on or after January 1, 2013, CMS will apply the MPPR to both the PC and the TC of advanced imaging procedures provided by multiple physicians in the same group practice (same group NPI). Under this policy, the MPPR will apply when one or more physicians in the same group practice furnish services to the same beneficiary, in the same session, on the same day.

#### Estimated Payment Reduction Due to Sustainable Growth Rate Mandatory Adjustments

The final rule includes a statutorily mandated 26.5 percent across-the-board reduction to Medicare payment rates due to the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) methodology. However, Congress has overridden these cuts every year since 2003. The Administration has also stated support for fixing the SGR update methodology and ensuring these payment cuts do not take effect. Congress will likely consider this issue after the election.